

The Third “Kizuna Concert” in Okayama

Three years have passed since the calamity had hit Tohoku on March 11th, 2011.

AMDA has been supporting the people in Tohoku affected by the disaster. “Kizuna Concert”, a same-generation exchange program through music is one of the projects supporting the youth of Tohoku.

First Year, March 2012

In March 2012, AMDA invited Otsuchi High School Brass Band to Okayama, and held the first Kizuna Concert with a local Shujitsu High School Brass Band in Okayama.



Otsuchi High School Brass Band playing in the first “Kizuna Concert” in Okayama. March 2012



Shujitsu High School Brass Band playing in their home base city of Okayama. March 2012

Second Year, March 2013

second year, in March 2013, about 40 members of Shujitsu High School Brass Band traveled from Okayama to Otsuchi, and held the second Kizuna Concert with Otsuchi High School Brass Band in Tohoku.



Shujitsu High School Brass Band members dancing to the music. March 2013



Otsuchi High School Brass Band playing during the second “Kizuna Concert” in Otsuchi. March 2013



Walking through the town of Otsuchi, students from Okayama feeling the impact of the disaster.



Learning about the disaster through photos and newspaper articles at a town hall in Otsuchi.

Third Year, March 2014

The third Kizuna Concert was held in Okayama, commemorating the third year anniversary of the disaster. AMDA High School Club has been involved in preparation of each concert since 2012, and they have actively participated in organizing the third year concert.



AMDA High School Club members setting up and decorating the hand-written banner of the concert



AMDA High School Club members folding and counting the concert program.

This year's Kizuna Concert consisted of two parts. The first part of the program was a forum where four students talked about their experiences from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. Two of them were from Otsuchi in Tohoku affected by the disaster. During the presentation, they both expressed their fear that the people's memory of the disaster gradually fading. One of them said that this type of natural disaster can happen to anybody at any time, that people should all be prepared.



A former Otsuchi High School Brass Band member talks about his experience and how music had helped him go through the difficult times.



A student from Otsuchi, who now studies nursing in Okayama, talks about his life at the evacuation shelter for the first 10 days in March 2011.

The other two students from Okayama, spoke about their volunteering experiences. They each said there are different ways of support one can extend, regardless of our age or where we live.



The second part of the event consisted of music performances, from religious and classical music to pops. The lively music performance filled the concert hall with laughter and happy tears.



Through this concert and forum, the abundance of energy from young people moved the audience to happy tears and laughter. AMDA believes the bond that developed between the young people who will take big parts in the reconstruction of Tohoku, brought this concert and forum a huge success.